



Important Passages

(Part 1)

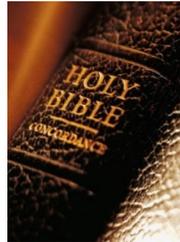
To Know and Live

For Pastors, Teachers, and All Believers

Sunday, 1/25/15 at 8:00 & 10:45 + Monday, 1/26/15 at 7 PM

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: There are many things that influence our daily lives – such as our health, our family members, and the weather. However, as people who are ✓ sorry for their sins and ✓ believe in Jesus as their Savior, God wants the greatest influence in our daily lives to come by His Spirit through His Word! Therefore, may God use this short series to enable us to better *know, understand, and live* some very important Bible passages!

1: The Bible Is God's Word: That is what I believe! An article by Gallup in 2007 states: “About one-third of the American adult population believes the Bible is the actual word of God and is to be taken literally word for word.”¹ That is good, but that also means that two-thirds believe the Bible is NOT the actual Word of God and is NOT to be taken literally. Furthermore, those in the “NOT” category have probably grown since 2007! But what really matters to me, *and what should matter to you*, is what the Bible says:



⇒ ^{NAS} **2 Timothy 3:16** All Scripture is inspired by God... // Lenski wrote: “The Scripture is thus absolutely incomparable; no other book, library, or anything else in

the world is able to make a lost sinner wise for salvation...”²

⇒ ^{NIV} **2 Peter 1:21** For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. // So the Scriptures came **from** God the Father **by** the Holy Spirit **through** men to written form. Thus the Bible is *God's very Word to us!*

2: The Bible Is Without Error and Eternal:

⇒ ^{NIV} **Proverbs 30:5** Every word of God is flawless... // or “pure” (KJV), or “tested” (NAS), or “true” (ESV). The idea is that it has been *tested by fire and proved to be genuine!*

⇒ ^{NAS} **Isaiah 40:8** The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever. // Things in nature are temporary, **but** “the word of our God stands forever.”

3: The Bible Has Many Benefits:

⇒ ^{NAS} **2 Timothy 3:16** All Scripture is ... profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;¹⁷ that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. // Lenski explained each of the bolded words: “**teaching** us the true saving facts – **refuting** the lies and the delusions that deny those facts – **restoring** the sinner or fallen Christian to an upright

¹ Gallup, Americas, May 25, 2007.

² R. C. H. Lenski, The Interpretation of St. Paul's Epistles to the Colossians, to the Thessalonians, to Timothy, to Titus, and to Philemon (Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1937), 841.

position – **educating, training, disciplining** one in genuine righteousness.”³

- ⇒ ^{NAS} **Psalm 1:1** How blessed is the man... [whose] ²...delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. ³ And he will be like a tree *firmly* planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither; and **in whatever he does, he prospers.** // So **delighting** leads to **meditating** leads to **practicing** leads to **prospering** – *in the very best ways, according to God’s point of view!*

4: The Sad Reality of Our Sins:

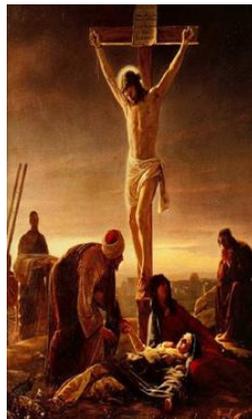
- ⇒ ^{NAS} **Isaiah 59:2** ...your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God... // Those who go to heaven are WITH God, but our sins have SEPARATED us from God. Note the picture – *we have no ability to cross the chasm*☹!



- ⇒ ^{NAS} **Romans 6:23** ...the wages of sin is death... // As our work earns a paycheck, so our sin has earned us ➔spiritual death, ➔physical death, and ➔eternal punishment☹!

5: Jesus’ Work to Save Us:

- ⇒ ^{NAS} **2 Corinthians 5:21** He [God the Father] made Him [Jesus] who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. // The sinless Jesus



received our sins for us☺! Now, *by grace through faith,* we are righteous in God’s sight!

- ⇒ ^{NAS} **1 Peter 3:18** ...Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God... // Jesus, *the just One,* died for all of us – *the unjust ones* – “in order that He might bring us to God...”

6: The Right Attitude of Our Hearts:

^{NAS} **Isaiah 66:2** “For My hand made all these things, thus all these things came into being,” declares the LORD. “But to this one I will look, to him who is...

- ⇒ humble and
 ⇒ contrite of spirit, and who
 ⇒ trembles at My word.” // Did you notice the LORD’s greatness? *His hand made heaven and earth* (v. 1), so His greatness is beyond our comprehension! Yet He is not impressed by people who think they are great; instead, He is looking ☺to the humble – *those who trust in Him,* ☺to the contrite of spirit – *those who are ever-sorry for their sins,* and ☺to the ones who tremble at His Word – *those who know it is true, desire to learn it better, and are serious about living according to it!*

Conclusion: Please join us next week as we focus on more important Bible passages! And all God’s people said: **Amen!**

Watch for a brochure at the end of this series which contains all the passages in this series!

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³ Ibid.